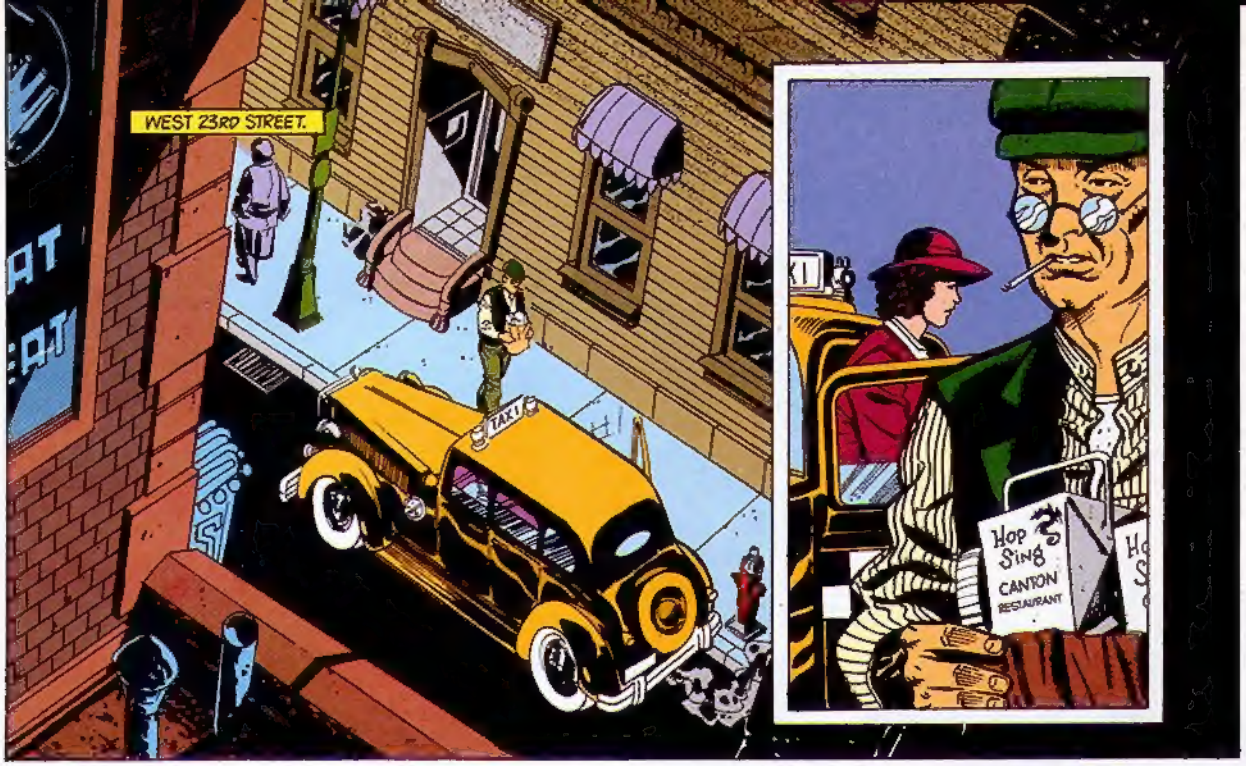
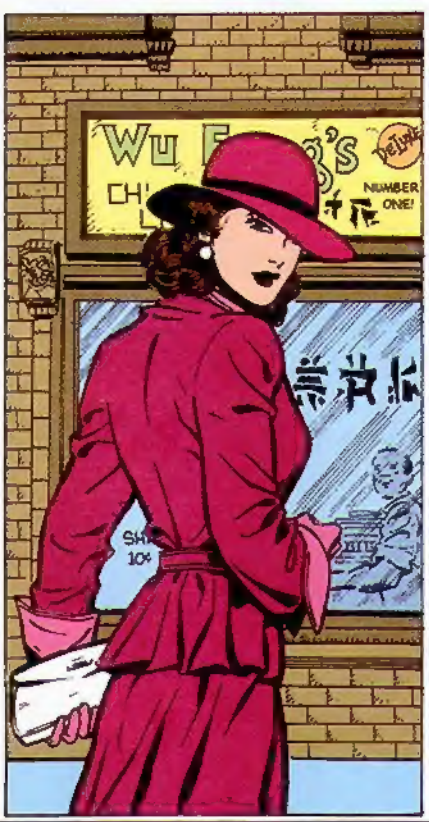
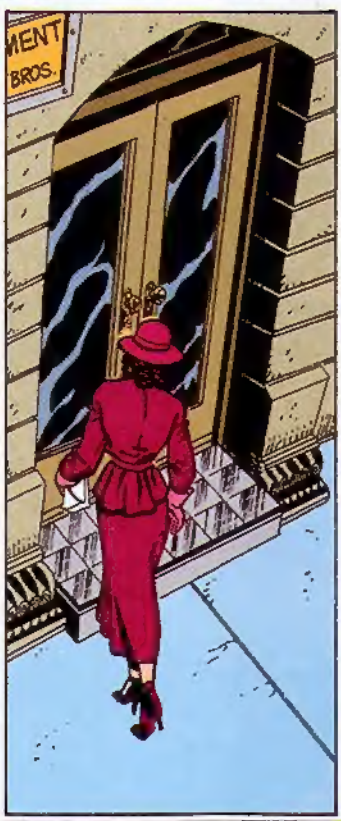
THE REVENGE OF SHIWAN KHAN!
THE Shadow STRIKES!
SHADOW STRIKES
21
JUL 91
US $2.00
CAN $2.50
UK £1
GERARD JONES, ROD WHIGHAM & GERRY FERNANDEZ







THE SHADOW STRIKES 21. July, 1991. Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE SHADOW STRIKES, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate $24.00. Canadian subscribers must add $8.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125921072. All other foreign countries must add $12.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1991 The Condé Nast Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of The Condé Nast Publications, Inc. For advertising space contact: Tom Ballou, (212) 636-5520. Printed in Canada.
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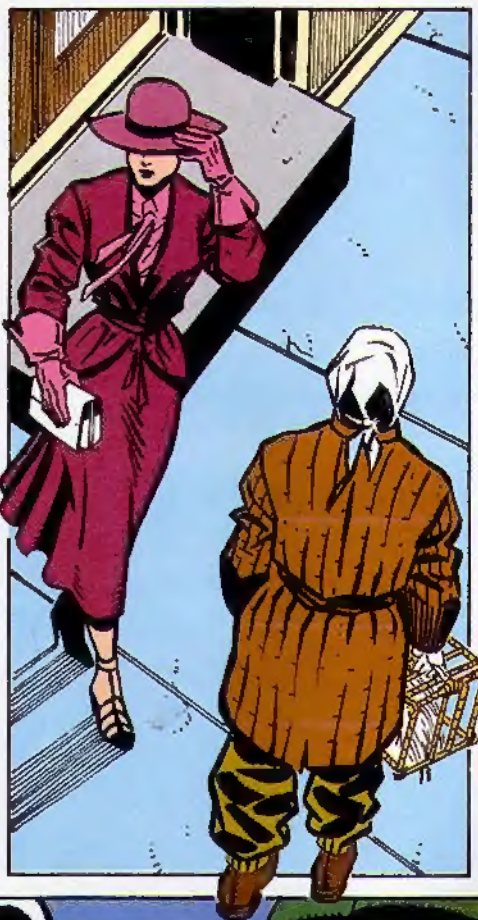
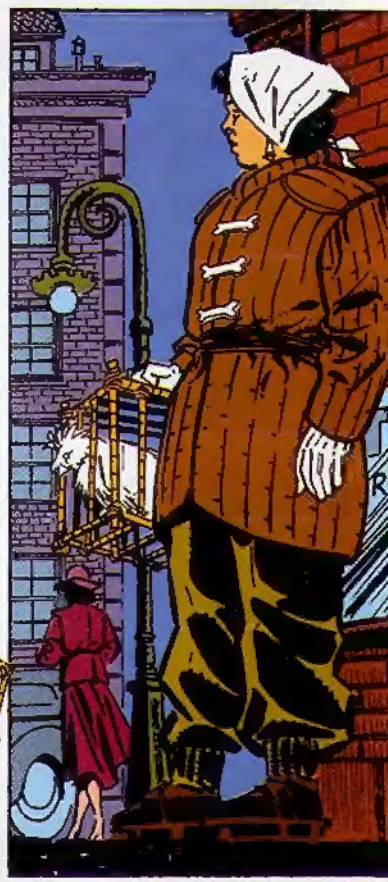
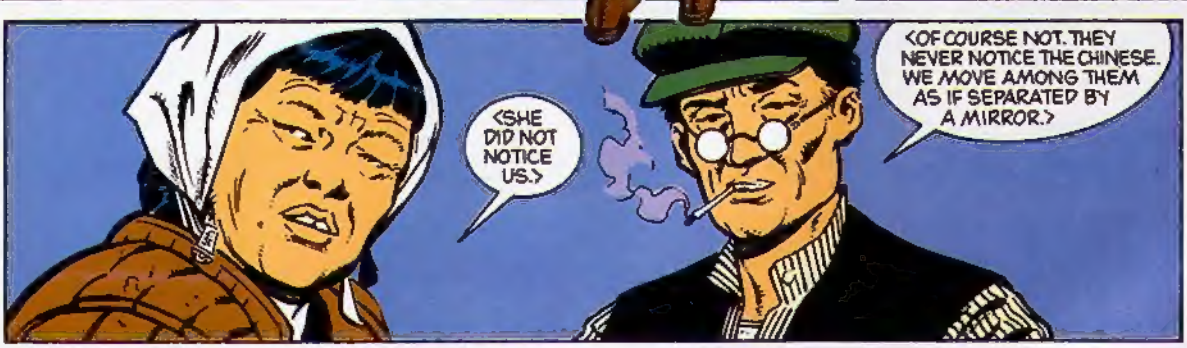
B. JONAS
INVESTMENTS






<SHE DID NOT NOTICE US.>
<OF COURSE NOT. THEY NEVER NOTICE THE CHINESE. WE MOVE AMONG THEM AS IF SEPARATED BY A MIRROR.>

<UNTIL THEY'RE TOO LAZY TO COOK DINNER, HUH? HA-HA!>
<YES. OR NEED THEIR LAUNDRY DONE. NOW, YOU STAY ON WATCH...>

"...THERE WILL BE OTHERS."
MALONE'S
SUNDRIES
GROCERY
TAXI
171
MAIL
OH!
WHOOPS!
I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK I DID THAT ON PURPOSE. I DON'T HAVE TO RESORT TO THAT TRICK--NOT YET!
I'M SURE YOU DON'T, MR...
3

VINCENT. HARRY VINCENT.
I'LL TELL WHAT I WILL RESORT TO, THOUGH. INVITING YOU TO LUNCH.
I'M SORRY, MR. VINCENT. BUT I'M ON MY WAY TO SEE MY FIANCE.
WELL, IF HE'S EVER NUTS ENOUGH TO LET YOU GET AWAY... MAKE MINE THE BIG, MANLY SHOULDER YOU CRY ON, HMM?
THAT'S VINCENT...
...HOTEL METROLITE!
THANKS, SHREVVY.
MEETCHA LIKE USUAL, RIGHT?
4

B. JONAS
MAIL
VINCENT... LANE...CROFTON... MARSLAND.
H. VINCENT

TWO MILLION EYES!

ONCE AGAIN, THE SHADOW OPENS HIS PRIVATE ANNALS TO...

GERARD JONES
WRITER

ROD WHIGHAM
PENCILLER

GERRY FERNANDEZ
INKER

BOB PINAHA
LETTERER

ANTHONY TOLLIN
COLORIST

BRIAN AUGUSTYN
EDITOR

BASED UPON THE WORKS OF WALTER GIBSON

BLAST IT.

DONG
DONG
DONG
12
3
9
6
BLAST IT!

MR. CRANSTON, SIR...
IS THERE A MESSAGE FOR ME?

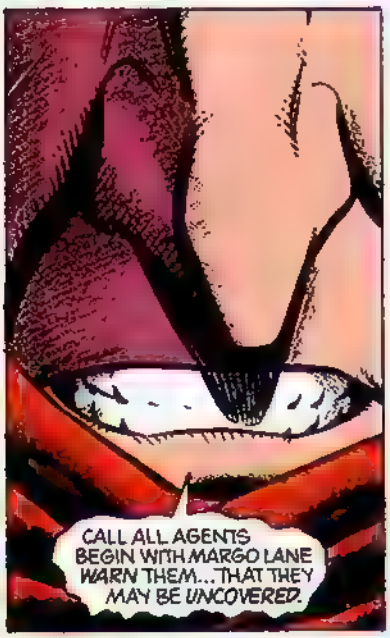
UH...NO, SIR. BUT IF YOU SHOULD WISH COCKTAILS BEFORE DINING...
NEVER MIND DINING--

--GET MY CAR!

"...THE MISSING BUDDHA..."
SO. WE DID FOOL THEM WITH THAT "GOLD BUDDHA" NONSENSE.
I KNEW HE MUST HAVE A LARGE HIVE OF DRONES... AND I THOUGHT I COULD STIR UP THAT HIVE...
...HAS THE TAXI DRIVER BEEN FOLLOWED?
CHA-SUR, JUGGA TAXI-SHA GASHONG BILAKA BA JIA-- JIA--JIA--
ENOUGH, BAGOR.
IF I'D WANTED HIM DISEMBOWELLED AND SPREAD UP AND DOWN FIFTH AVENUE, I'D HAVE REQUESTED THAT.
SIMPLY FOLLOW HIM. SEE WHO USES HIM...
...WHILE WE GET STARTED ON THE OTHERS.
8

B. JONAS
INVESTMENTS

SPEAK, MASTER!


CALL ALL AGENTS BEGIN WITH MARGO LANE WARN THEM... THAT THEY MAY BE UNCOVERED.

RING RING

RING RING

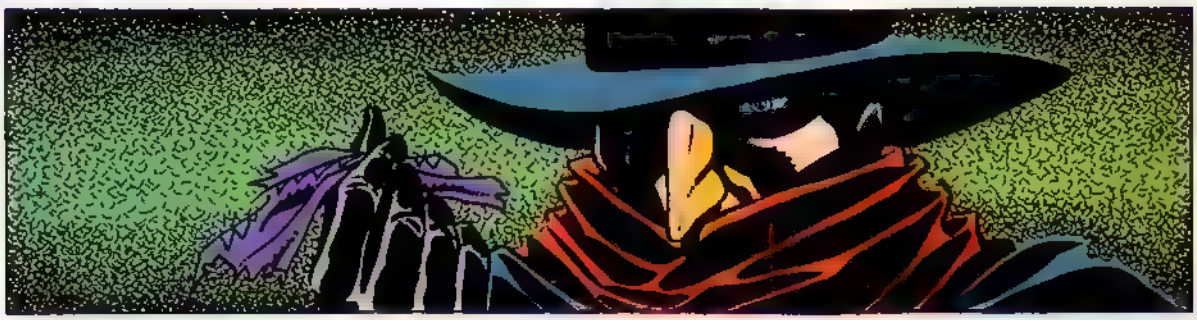
RING RING
R-R-R-RIP
10

RING RING
RING RING
IT IS SO KIND OF YOU TO HELP ME.
RING RING
FORGET IT, DOLL. I WAS A STRANGER IN NEW YORK M'SELF ONCE.
TAXI!
THAT IS SO DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE!
WELL... I'LL ADMIT THAT IF YOU HADDA PICK A GUY AT RANDOM TO ASK DIRECTIONS OF...
...YOU HIT THE JACKPOT WHEN YOU PICKED ME.
"JACK. POT"?
I SEE YOU'VE GOT SOME LEARNING TO--
--HUH?
TAXI
THE GENTLEMAN... WANT A CAB?
MICK'S
RNS 7:2

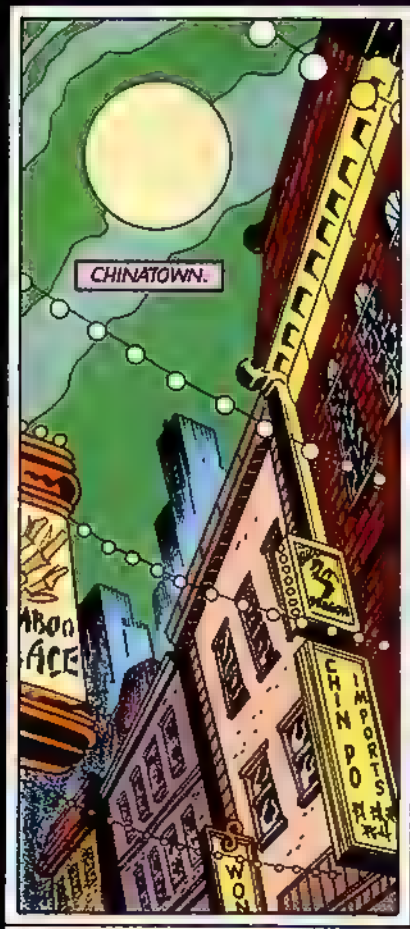
SHREVNITZ! MEET THE MASTER... AT HIS CLUB!
AWREADY ON MY WAY, BURBANK
NO COPS IN SIGHT. IF I CAN RUN THIS SIGN...
STOP
TAXI!
ONE WAY
DEAD END
SORRY, BUD. I GOT A CALL. NO FARES.
BUT I NEED A TAXI.
I TELL YA--
MIDTOWN CAB
15¢
NO. I TELL YOU.
I AM YOUR CALL NOW.
333 COBALT CLUB
12

I'D BE HAPPY TO CALL YOU A CAB, MR. C
THANK YOU NO, WALTER. I'LL BE FINE.
I'LL JUST WALK.

SILK?



SHANGHAI.

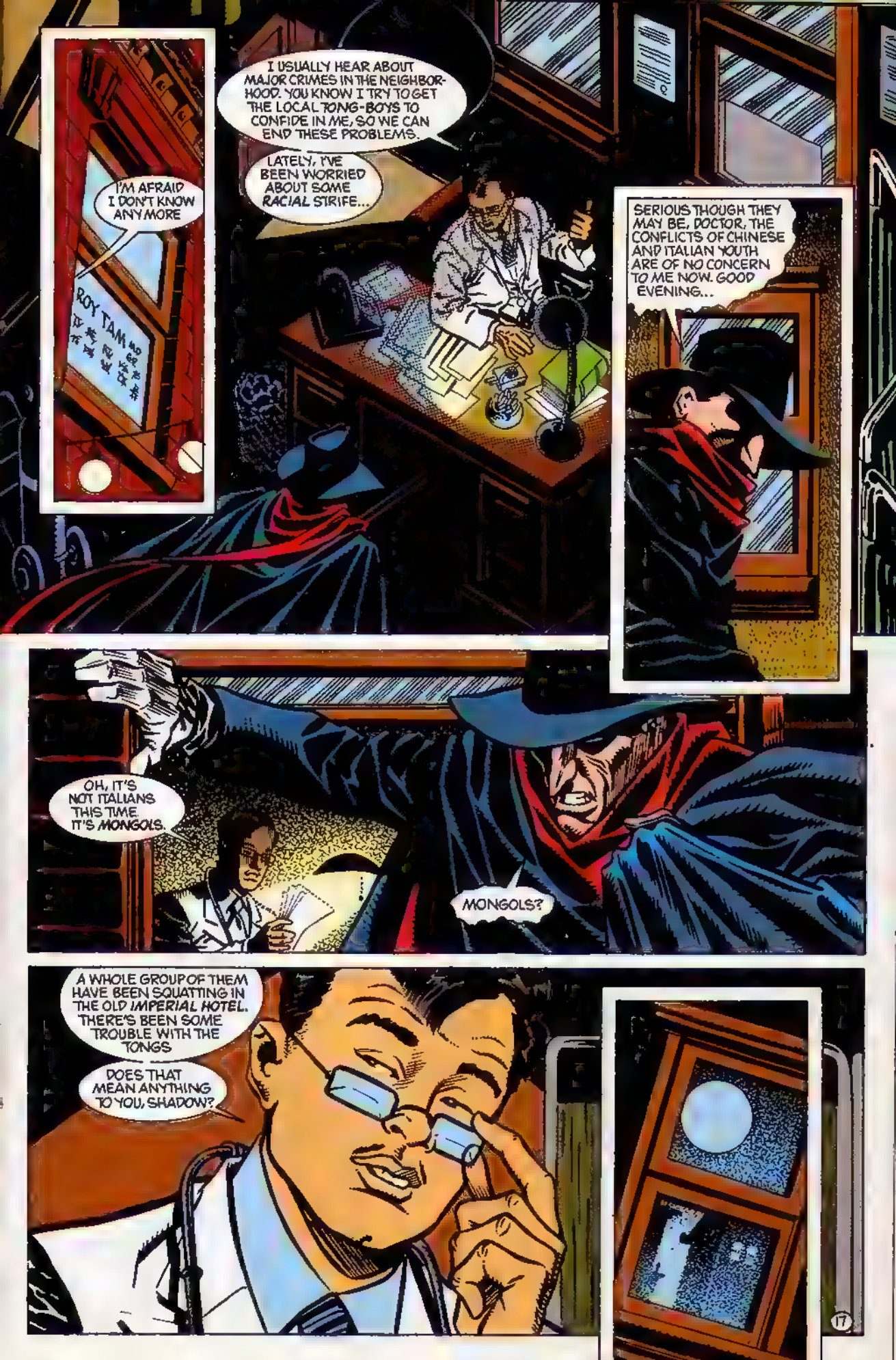

CHINATOWN.
CHIN PO
IMPORTS

WAIT. PLEASE, SIR.. YOU CANNOT--

HEY!

NO. LET THIS ONE THROUGH.
NO ONE STOPS HIM.

EVERYBODY KNOWS-- ALL PAI GOW GAMES ON MOTT STREET ARE MY TURF! HE WANT TO RUN GIRLS-- OKAY BUT PAI GOW IS MINE!
<YET, SUN LOCK... DID YOU NOT FORCE THIS "TURF" FROM .>
WHAT--?
<I KNOW YOUR TIME IS PRECIOUS, AUGUST YAT SOON..>
<...FOR YOU ARE THE GREAT ARBITER OF ALL DISPUTES IN THIS UNDERWORLD. BUT I MUST BORROW YOUR KNOWLEDGE.>
<DO YOU KNOW OF THE ABDUCTION OF A CAUCASIAN WOMAN BY MEN OF SHANGHAI?>
<DO NOT INSULT ME WITH FANTASIES OF WHITE SLAVERY IN CHINATOWN. HAVE YOU BEEN SMOKING OPIUM. .>
<...OR READING COSMOPOLITAN?>
<MY AGENTS WERE EXPLORING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE GOLD BUDDHAS. AT LEAST ONE HAS NOW BEEN ABDUCTED.>
<I FEAR SOMEONE STRIKES AT MY ORGANIZATION.>
<THE BUDDHAS WERE IMPORTED BY MEN OF WHOM I'D NEVER HEARD... AND STOLEN BY OTHERS, THE SAME.>
<IT IS A GAME I DO NOT UNDERSTAND. ABOUT WHICH I CAN TELL YOU... NOTHING.>
16


I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW ANY MORE
ROY TAM
I USUALLY HEAR ABOUT MAJOR CRIMES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU KNOW I TRY TO GET THE LOCAL TONG-BOYS TO CONFIDE IN ME, SO WE CAN END THESE PROBLEMS.
LATELY, I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT SOME RACIAL STRIFE...
SERIOUS THOUGH THEY MAY BE, DOCTOR, THE CONFLICTS OF CHINESE AND ITALIAN YOUTH ARE OF NO CONCERN TO ME NOW. GOOD EVENING...
OH, IT'S NOT ITALIANS THIS TIME. IT'S MONGOLS.
MONGOLS?
A WHOLE GROUP OF THEM HAVE BEEN SQUATTING IN THE OLD IMPERIAL HOTEL. THERE'S BEEN SOME TROUBLE WITH THE TONGS
DOES THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU, SHADOW?

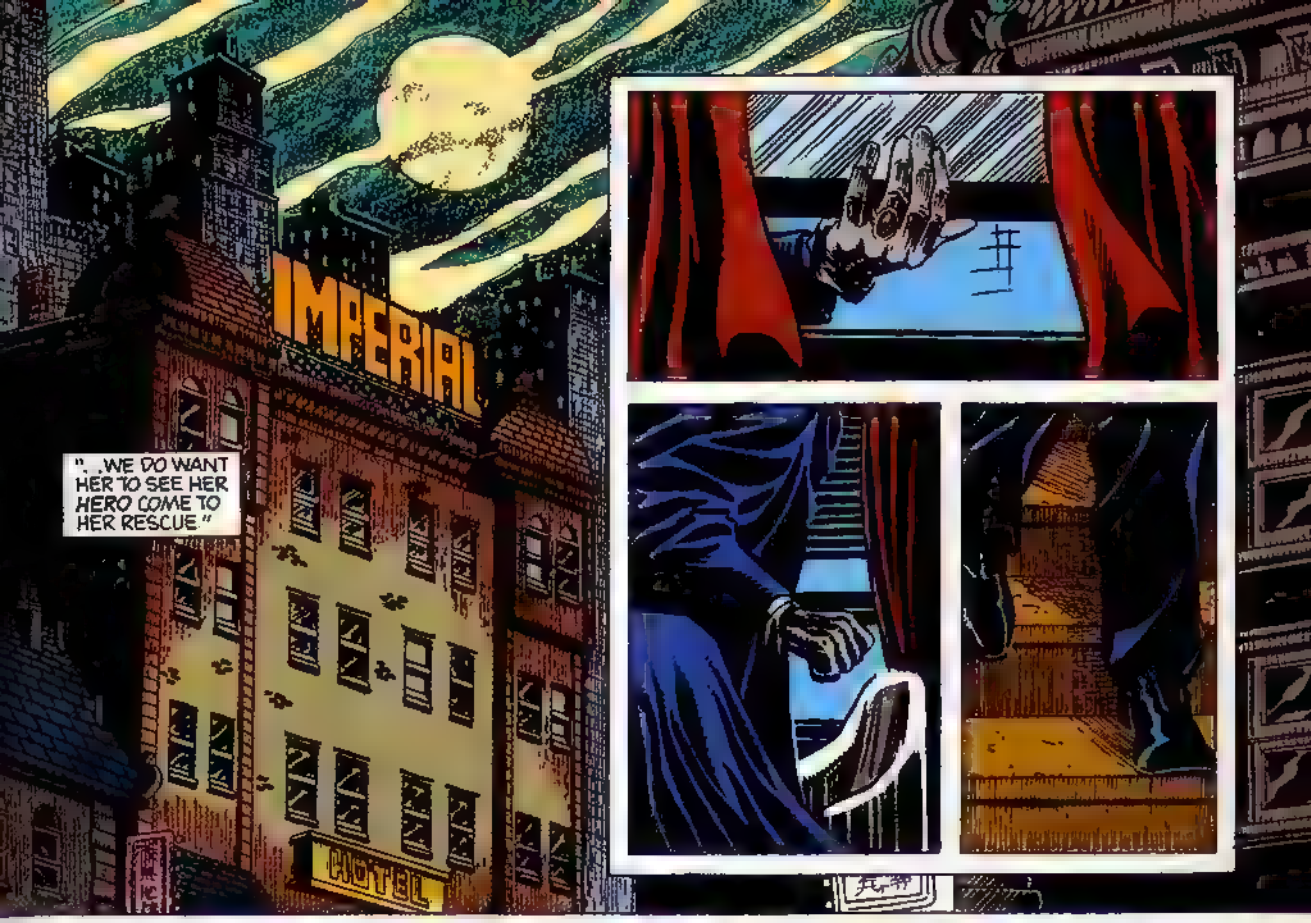
WHERE IS THIS? WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
HAAAARR--GMPH!
WHAT?
THAT WAS MARGO'S VOICE! YOU'VE--
--HWUH!
GO.
SSSSS
DAMN YOU, WHERE--
S-SSTOOM
HNNG!
18

GOTTA GET THROUGH THIS. GOTTA GET MARGO. GOTTA--
OH, I AM SO SORRY!
I DID NOT KNOW!
YOU! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TRICKED ME INTO THIS!
NO! I WAS IN DANGER.. FROM THEM! I SOUGHT YOU FOR HELP! I INTENDED TO WARN YOU, AS SOON AS WE WERE ALONE...
...BUT THEY WERE SO QUICK!
UH-HUH, BABY. IT FITS TOGETHER TOO NICE. I DON'T BUY IT.
OH, BUT YOU MUST PURCHASE IT! YOU MUST BELIEVE ME! YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE ME!
HEY! HEY!
TAKE IT EASY... KID.
JUST... TAKE IT EASY.

HE NOT HEAR YOU NOW!
BUT LOOK! LOOK THIS ONE!
MAYBE HE WANT TO HEAR YOU!
OH...DEAR LORD...
CLAUDE!
MAR... MAR.
OH, GOD--OH, GOD--
--NO!
SLAM!
AAAAAA
CLAUDE! WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO HIM?

LET ME GO TO HIM!
UH?
YES. YES. RUN.
GYURRHH!
YES. YES! FIGHT!
HEEYAAAH!

CHULGASH!
A--A--A!
LET'S PLEASE LEAVE MISS LANE HER *HEAD*, SHALL WE? WE DO WANT HER TO SEE THE *MUCH BETTER* SHOW THAT WE HAVE PLANNED...


IMPERIAL
"...WE DO WANT HER TO SEE HER HERO COME TO HER RESCUE"
HOTEL

DUST.

RECEPTION
DUST.
DUST.
BUT UNDER THE DUST, COLD.
KLIK
24

KLAK
SPLOOSH
GHONG
WE DO WANT MISS LANE TO SEE HER HERO'S DEFEAT...
...AT THE HANDS OF... SHIWAN KHAN!
TO BE CONTINUED!

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1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019

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Dear Mr. Jones:

I really enjoyed the story within THE SHADOW STRIKES! #17. To the best of my knowledge, we've never seen the real Lamont Cranston in depth, and quite a fascinating character he is.

Rod Whigham is beginning to grow on me. I miss Mr. Barreto immensely, but one of the great things about the Shadow is that he can be interpreted differently with few complaints. I've said before that Barreto and Whigham have similar styles, but Whigham has a touch I can't quite explain, which is quite different but quite likable.

Keep up the great stories and art. You have a winning book here. One question: As I've read this book over the past year and a half, I've discovered some criticism of the radio show. I discovered the Shadow through radio, and although he was born in the pulps, I don't think his radio interpretation was bad. Like any other character, adaptation in the media requires change.

Tim Durbin
(address not provided)

Thanks for the kind words, Tim—I'm glad to hear somebody feels THE SHADOW STRIKES! is a book open for interpretation. We received some very obnoxious letters concerning Mark Badger's art on #18 and #19. The writers either refused to accept any art style too far removed from Eduardo's, or they just plain enjoy being obnoxious. Keep an open mind, people.

* * * * *

Dear Sirs:

I am writing (rather belatedly, I admit) in reference to your ongoing series THE SHADOW STRIKES! My first words are of praise and admiration for your work. Out of all the Shadow-related material DC has published, THE SHADOW STRIKES! is, in my opinion, undoubtedly the best yet. Now, don't get me wrong—THE SHADOW from the '70s had its flair, and the modern-day SHADOW published in the '80s is worth high recognition, but I think that your current series is your best portrayal I have seen. The earlier Shadow had character, and the incorporation of Shamballa into his past was an impressively good yarn and added a touch of fantasy to the Shadow, but THE SHADOW STRIKES! is the most realistic and haunting depiction of him to date. If the Shadow truly existed (exists?), he would be the one characterized in this book. Congratulations are in order to Mr. Jones for his intricate, gripping plots and to Mr. Barreto for his superb artwork.

I have one question and one suggestion with respect to Mr. Barreto. Will he continue to work on THE SHADOW STRIKES! or has Mr. Badger taken his place? While I enjoy Mr. Badger's work (and I am in no position to critique his work since I have no artistic ability myself) I must admit I prefer Mr. Barreto. I hope he can continue to add to the series from time to time even if he is busy with something else. My suggestion is in regard to Mr. Barreto's portrayal of the Shadow. I have noticed lately that more often than not, we see the Shadow's entire face. In my opinion the Shadow's piercing eyes, his hat and cloak, his hollow laugh, and his emotionless face due to his scarf are what make the Shadow mysterious and unnerving. Showing the Shadow's entire face with a wide grin detracts from this, and it makes him look like the Joker with a fedora hat and cloak. Once in a while it's OK, because that suggests that the scarf is not plastered to his face.

One last suggestion: In my opinion the Shadow is best suited to the world of the 1930's; however, I thought that transplanting the Shadow to modern times was an interesting idea. Also, Marvel's contribution to the Shadow, *Hitler's Astrologer*, was another interesting and enjoyable exercise in this concept. Why not continue? Perhaps once in a while you could publish a four-part series or graphic novel in which the Shadow is in some other era in America's past. No explanation would be necessary; it would be purely a fictitious jaunt into the adventures of a different yet very similar Shadow. One idea that comes to mind is a Shadow of the 1860's, during the American Civil War. His costume and character could be essentially the same (with slight modifications for the time period, e.g., two Colt revolvers instead of two .45s) and he could have a different set of agents. Perhaps the Union victory at Antietam was not due to McClellan or Lee but to the Shadow's pursuit of corruption within the Union (or Confederate) army? The possibilities are endless.

Before I close I must ask that you forgive my endless prattling. If you have time, please answer my question and give me your thoughts on my suggestions. And once again, congratulations on a job well done.

Trey Felty
(address not provided)

Prattle to your heart's content, Trey, we're good listeners. There are no plans at the moment for any additional Shadow projects at DC, and it may be better to keep all our eggs in one basket at this point rather than risk oversaturating the market with a slew of Shadow-related items. Don't be disappointed, though; the monthly book provides us with enough latitude to do a series within a series and perhaps something a little out of the ordinary.

* * * * *

Dear Gerard:

Regarding THE SHADOW STRIKES! #18, mystery is what the Shadow is about; but it's nice to see the Shadow not totally uncaring, especially to one of his agents.

Melissa Page
Nortonville, KY

* * * * *

Hey, Gerard:
Re: THE SHADOW STRIKES! #18

Thanks for another in a long line of wonderful stories. Bring Eduardo back ASAP, okay??!

Elvis Orten
Dawson Springs, KY

We'll see...

* * * * *

Dear Brian,
Re: THE SHADOW STRIKES! #18

Shrevvy finally gets his turn in the spotlight. Long awaited and well deserved, it portrays the cab driver/chauffeur in a different light. Away from the Shadow, Moe Shrevnitz is like any average guy: sensitive, caring, protective, etc. His uneasiness over being passed over for a mission is understandable, considering his problems at home. The jury is out on the rest of the case for the nonce.

Mark Badger's work is reminiscent of Bill Sienkiewicz on the first few issues of the last Shadow series, lamentable that it was. It also reveals that Badger was influenced by some of the early, very early comic strips. Better than what I've seen of his work recently.

Jacob Gilbert
Troy, NY

Does that mean you liked it, Jacob, or not?

* * * * *

Dear DC:

Issues #18 and #19 of THE SHADOW STRIKES! have been just plain excellent. These issues hit closer to home than most. You see, I'm a union steward and delegate for the APWU. Many of the sentiments expressed by the strikers are echoed by me on a daily basis and it was quite enjoyable to see a union shown in a positive light as opposed to the usual mobster-influenced unions I've seen in comics before. Because of this I bought extra copies to give to my local officers to read. Thanks again for the words spoken by Rachel.

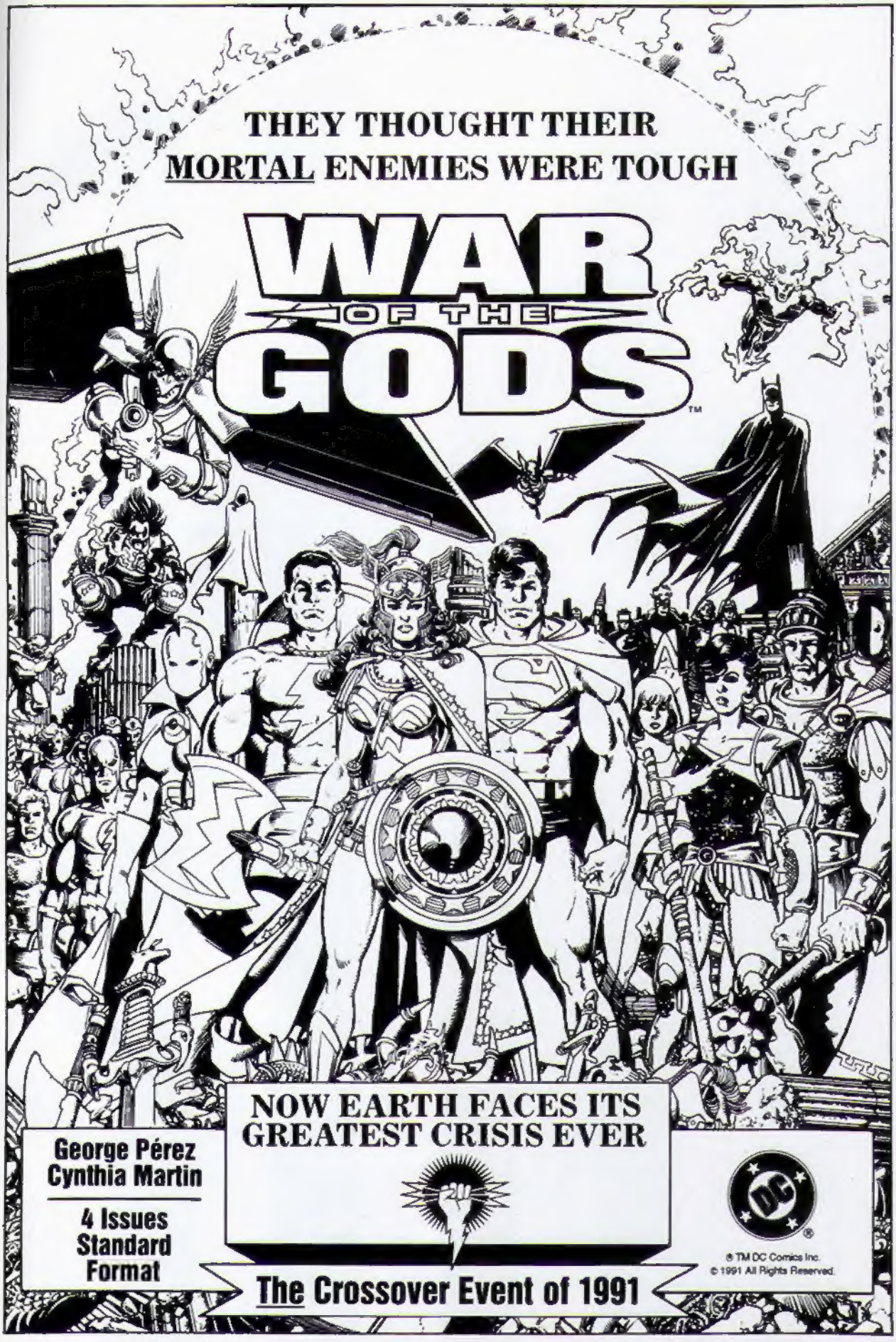
At this time I'd like to echo Uncle Elvis's request for pinups by Tim Truman, John K. Snyder III, and Flint Henry.

Willie R. Mellen
Maplewood, MN

I'm a big fan for solidarity as well, Willie; my father was an air traffic controller and PATCO (Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization) member during the big strike in '81. He is no longer an air controller, but he will always be a PATCO member.
—Dan Thorsland

* * * * *

NEXT: The insidious plot of Shiwan Khan unfolds, and even the Dark Avenger finds himself in jeopardy! Join Gerry Jones, Rod Whigham, and Gerry Fernandez for more Shadow excitement! See you then.


THEY THOUGHT THEIR
MORTAL ENEMIES WERE TOUGH
WAR OF THE GODS
NOW EARTH FACES ITS GREATEST CRISIS EVER
George Pérez
Cynthia Martin
4 Issues
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The Crossover Event of 1991
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